



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY  
OF THE  
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

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**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**  
**RE: ALAN G. WARD, BPR #18949**  
**CONTACT: WILLIAM C. MOODY**  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**615-361-7500**

November 3, 2017

**BENTON COUNTY LAWYER DISBARRED**

On November 3, 2017, Alan G. Ward was disbarred from the practice of law by Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Mr. Ward must also make restitution to a client. Mr. Ward must pay the Board's costs and expenses and the court costs within ninety days of the entry of the Order of Enforcement.

Mr. Ward failed to handle an urgent child custody petition expeditiously. He caused signatures on a pleading to be falsely dated. He failed to communicate with the child's guardian ad litem. When terminated by his clients, he failed to promptly return their file. He did not refund the unearned portion of his fee. In a separate matter, Mr. Ward was appointed to represent two indigent defendants in the Court of Criminal Appeals in two different cases. He failed to file a brief on behalf of his clients. He failed to respond to orders from the Court of Criminal Appeals. He abandoned his representation of the clients.

Mr. Ward's ethical misconduct violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.1, Competence; 1.3, Diligence; 1.4(a), Communication; 1.5(a), Fees; 1.16(d)(3), (4) and (6), Declining and Terminating Representation; 3.2, Expediting Litigation; 3.3(a)(1), Candor toward the Tribunal; 3.4(c), Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel; 8.1(b), Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters; and 8.4(a) and (c), Misconduct.

Mr. Ward must comply with the requirements of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, Sections 28 and 30, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of suspended attorneys.

Ward 2708-7 rel.doc

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE

FILED  
11/03/2017  
Clerk of the  
Appellate Courts

**IN RE: ALAN G. WARD, BPR #18949**  
An Attorney Licensed to Practice Law in Tennessee  
(Benton County)

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No. M2017-02157-SC-BAR-BP  
BOPR No. 2017-2708-7-WM

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**ORDER OF ENFORCEMENT**

This matter is before the Court upon a Petition for Discipline filed against Alan G. Ward on April 25, 2017; upon a Motion for Default Judgment and that Charges in Petition for Discipline Be Deemed Admitted filed on June 20, 2017; upon an Order for Default Judgment entered on July 5, 2017; upon a hearing on August 2, 2017; upon the Judgment of the Hearing Panel entered on August 14, 2017; upon service of the Judgment of the Hearing Panel on Mr. Ward by the Executive Secretary of the Board on August 14, 2017; upon the Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs filed August 9, 2017; upon the Findings and Judgment for Assessment of Costs entered August 28, 2017; upon service of the Judgment on Board of Professional Responsibility's Application for Assessment of Costs upon Mr. Ward on August 28, 2017; upon consideration and approval by the Board on September 8, 2017; upon expiration of the appeal period with no appeal taken; and upon the entire record in this cause.

From all of which the Court approves the Judgment of the Hearing Panel and adopts the Hearing Panel's Judgment recommending a disbarment.

On November 1, 2016, Mr. Ward was temporarily suspended by this Court pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.3 (Case No. M2016-02176-SC-BAR-BP). To date, Mr. Ward has not requested, nor been granted reinstatement, from this suspension.

IT IS, THEREFORE, CONSIDERED, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT THAT:

- (1) Alan G. Ward is disbarred, pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.1.
- (2) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 12.7, and as a condition precedent to any

reinstatement, Mr. Ward shall make restitution to Jessica Goforth in the amount of \$2,500.00 and shall furnish to the Board of Professional Responsibility proof of restitution. In the event restitution is made by the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection (TLFCP), Mr. Ward shall reimburse TLFCP in the same amount.

(3) Prior to seeking reinstatement, Mr. Ward must meet all CLE requirements; have remitted all outstanding registration fees and outstanding professional privilege taxes, including those due from the date of this disbarment until the date of reinstatement; and have remitted all court costs and Board costs in this matter.

(4) Additionally, Mr. Ward shall comply in all aspects with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, §§ 28 and 30.4, regarding the obligations and responsibilities of disbarred attorneys and the procedure for reinstatement.

(5) Further, the Order of Temporary Suspension entered on November 1, 2016 in Case No. M2016-02176-SC-BAR-BP is hereby dissolved.

(6) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 28.1, this Order shall be effective upon entry.

(7) Pursuant to Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 9, § 31.3(d), Mr. Ward shall pay to the Board of Professional Responsibility the expenses and costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,085.92 and shall pay to the Clerk of this Court the costs incurred herein, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, for all of which execution may issue if necessary.

(8) The Board of Professional Responsibility shall cause notice of this discipline to be published as required by Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. § 28.11.

PER CURIAM